

UNFPA Cameroon CO - Situation Report # 13

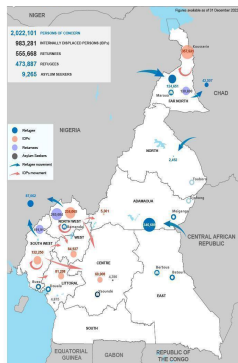
From 01 to 31 October, 2023



Country:	<i>UNFPA Cameroon</i>
Crises Locations:	Far-North region (Lake Chad Basin crisis), North-West and South-West regions (socio-political crisis), Adamawa, East and North regions (Central African refugees' crisis)
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Summary of Humanitarian Situation in Numbers

	1,069,757 Internally-displaced persons: (357,631 Far-North, 366,315 North-West South-West, 226,233 other regions)		477,209 Refugees: (349,290 Central Africans, 127,919 Nigerians)
	4.7 million people in need		2.7 million people targeted
	1,128,000 women of reproductive age targeted by UNFPA		799,000 young and adolescent girls (10-19)
	13,608 births expected to happen within any given month		13.6 Million USD required - 32% received



1. Highlights of the humanitarian situation, including security concerns

Far-North (FN) and North region:

In October 2023, there were several attacks on villages and a military convoy which resulted in the deaths of at least 25 people and the displacement of hundreds more. Between the 21 and 23 October, unidentified gunmen kidnapped approximately 50 people near Touboro (North), a town bordering Chad and CAR. The Benoué river in Cameroon's North Region overflowed following torrential rains, affecting 81,000 people in the neighboring localities.

North-West and South-West regions (NW/SW):

This October several security incidents causing deaths and displacement were recorded. The deadliest one killed 15 people in a village in the Bui Division of the North-West region. Lockdowns and frequent attacks to villages continue having a significant impact on humanitarian access and smooth delivery of assistance.

Adamawa, East and North Regions:

No new movements of refugees were reported during the month of October. The report evaluating progress on the implementation of the national commitments made at the World Forum on Refugees in 2019 was shared by the Government of Cameroon, following the national consultation held on September 26 and 27.

Others regions

On October 8, in Mbankolo, a neighborhood in the Yaoundé II council in Cameroon's Centre region, a landslide after a heavy downpour killed about 28 people, 09 patients cared for in health facilities, 110 affected people relocated to temporary shelters managed by the national authorities and ICRC.

The United Nations Acting Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator in Cameroon, Mr. Siaka Coulibaly, visited the Far North of Cameroon, from October 18 to 20 and met the refugees and IDPs in Minawao and Zamay (Mayo Tsanaga Division) humanitarian actors, including UNFPA, and Cameroonian authorities.

2. Humanitarian Needs:

October reports from humanitarian midwives working for UNFPA in the Far North and the East regions highlight the following needs with regards to reproductive and maternal health in humanitarian context:

- Limited access to health services: health centers and hospitals are often poorly equipped and understaffed. Women often have to travel long distances to access care, which can be difficult, if not impossible, for women living in remote or isolated areas.
- Low awareness of health services: Women are often unaware of available health services or the benefits of family planning. Awareness-raising campaigns are needed to inform women of their reproductive health rights and options.
- Cultural bias: Cultural norms can also hinder women's access to health services. Some religions and cultures regard FP as taboo. It is necessary to work with community leaders to combat cultural prejudice and promote access to health services for all women.

- An increasingly high number of teenage pregnancies and unintended pregnancies has been reported in the locality of Gado-Badjéré in the East Region. The local administrative and health authorities made the alert during sensitization campaigns organized by UNFPA in October.

3. UNFPA Country Office Response:

- Humanitarian response is supported by RR, BHA, CERF and Norway funds
- Implementing partners of SRH and GBV BHA-funded project " held a performance review meeting in Maroua on October 17, 2023 to monitor project execution and adjust strategies .
- 10 webinars were held by UNFPA, leading the MHPSS Technical Working Group (MHPSS TWG) for the practitioners of the North and South-west regions as part of the celebration of the 30th edition of World Mental Health Day (WMHD) on October 10.

a. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights:

UNFPA deployment of 34 humanitarian midwives deployed in humanitarian settings and support to 19 health facilities:

- 768 prenatal consultations (CPN1 and CPN4+), 644 assisted deliveries, 586 complete postnatal care to mothers and newborns including the management of 254 complications during childbirth (vaginal and cervical tears, postpartum hemorrhage and infections, prolonged labour, dystocia etc.)
- 72 new users of modern contraceptives and renewal for 43 old clients, were carried out by the.

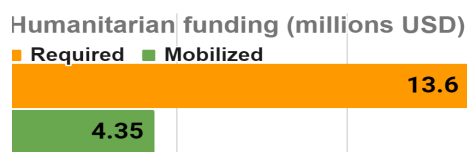
b. GBV Prevention & Response:

- 26 social workers and community workers (22 women and 4 men) were trained on available specialized GBV services and safe referral of survivors
- 3 new WGSS were set up in Fotokol and Mozogo (Far North) and Nkambe (NW). A total of 5267 women and girls participated in psychosocial support activities the five WGSS operating in the NWSW in October.
- the GBV AoR organized validation workshop for updated GBV referral pathway updated involving 63 GBV service providers from Bamenda (North West region) and from Buea (South West region)
- 42 enumerators who will conduct data collection for the “Voices from Cameroon” survey in the Far North, East, North West and South West were trained. Data will help to inform GBV needs and to define the targets during the ongoing HPC 2024.
- 791 dignity kits were distributed to vulnerable women and girls in Boyo (205), Bui (63), Donga Mantung (85), Mezam (294), Momo (70) in the North West, and Fako (59) and Meme (15) in the South West.
- A GBV safety audit was carried out in selected communities from North West, reaching 80 community leaders and stakeholders and 472 community members.

522,823 people have been reached by UNFPA from January to October 2023 broken as follows:



4. Resources mobilization



- **Current donors:** BHA-USAID, CERF Norway
- **Funding gap:** 9.25 Millions USD;
- **Proposals submitted to:** JAPAN,

5. Staffing and Human Resources

- Approved vacancies are being published in the UNFPA public job. Urgent vacancies to be filled are a GBV Specialist, an SRH and a GBV expert for the Far North.
- GBV AoR will experience a major gap at sub-national level in the North West and South West in early November, interim solutions are planned and the GBV Coordination is coaching one of the GBV staff to ensure an interim role.

6. Challenges

- Secure non-core financial resources for the upcoming year, in particular for the North West and SouthWest response, is a major challenge as opportunities are currently very few.

7. Support Needed (RO and HQs)

- Support is needed to strengthen the cash and voucher modality to assist vulnerable populations in the hard-to-reach areas.

PHOTO GALLERY



A view of a group sensitization session led by the IP ALVF-EN in Mada, Logone-and-Chari Division



UNFPA-deployed midwife in Mozogo administering first care to a new-born, Mozogo District Hospital, Mayo Tsanaga Division



A group of women and girls supported by UNFPA learning weaving and knitting in WGSS in Mada, Makary District Hospital, Logone-and-Chari Division



A coaching session of ALVF-EN Social & Community Workers by UNFPA GBV Specialist in Vele, Mayo Danay Division



ANC consultation by BHA-supported midwife - Guéréme Integrated Health Centre



Immunization session performed by BHA-supported midwife, Kolara Integrated Health Centre, Moulvoudaye Health District, Mayo Kani Division



THANK YOU

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